

Attorney Docket No. 04097/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Tetsuya NIITSUMA

Serial No. : 10/783,372

Filed : February 20, 2004

For : IMAGE READING APPARATUS,  
IMAGE FORMATION APPARATUS  
AND METHOD FOR DETECTING  
DOCUMENT AREA

Art Unit : 2624

Examiner : YEH, EUENG NAN

Confirm. No.: 2407

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(d) WITH  
STATEMENT UNDER 1.97(e)(1) AND FEE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are the following:

- (1) Copy of a Japanese Office Action (Notification of Reason for Refusal) dated November 20, 2007 (and English translation thereof) issued in a counterpart Japanese application;
- (2) Copies of cited publications (except U.S. patents and publications); and
- (3) IDS Form.

This paper is being submitted via EFS-Web on February 11, 2008

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not already paid, authorization to charge the extension fee to Account No. 06-1378. In addition, authorization is hereby given to charge any fees for which payment has not been submitted, or to credit any overpayments, to Account No. 06-1378.

The USPTO fee of \$180.00 as set forth under 37 CFR 1.17(p) for filing an IDS at this stage of prosecution (after issuance of a final Office Action) is being paid by credit card herewith. If any further fees are required, authorization is given to charge same against Account No. 06-1378.

An English translation of said Japanese Office Action is provided, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance for any non-English language publications cited therein (MPEP 609.04(a)III).

English language Abstracts are provided for each of the cited Japanese references.

USP 5,353,130 cited on the attached IDS Form is a patent family member of JP 04-233368 which is cited in the Japanese Office Action.

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1)**

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from foreign patent offices in counterpart foreign applications not more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Said Communication bears a mailing date of November 20, 2007. Therefore, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, with fee, is timely under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(d).

**NOT A RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

This paper is not a response to the outstanding Office Action mailed January 17, 2008. A response to said outstanding Office Action will be timely filed in due course.

It is respectfully requested that an initialed copy of the IDS Form be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have all been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

/Leonard Holtz/

Leonard Holtz, Esq.  
Reg. No. 22,974

Encls.

Dated: February 11, 2008

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